Beating Burnout and the Viability of Locum Tenens as a Solution



Presenters

Tom Massing, DMSc, MS, PA-C, FAPACVS CAQ

- PA for more than 36 years
- Worked more than 25 locum tenens assignments since 2012

Mike Freeman, Division President, CompHealth

- Helping PAs and other healthcare providers find jobs for more than 25 years
- As vice president with CompHealth, Mike oversees the placement of PAs in locum tenens jobs across the country.





1



About CompHealth

- Solution Founded in 1979
- Sirst locum tenens agency
- ✓ Largest staffing firm
- ✓ Full service
- ✓ Core value focused



Key Industry Facts

In Latin, locum tenens means, "to take the place of someone temporarily."



Locum tenens providers work in all 50 states and cover over 75 specialties

More than 40,000 providers work locum tenens assignments annually





94% of U.S. healthcare facilities use locums each year

Learning objectives



Signs and causes of burnout Learning from a tenured PA Viability of locum tenens

How to get started in locum tenens

Signs of burnout



Apathy to work and colleagues

Indifference to patients

Loss of joy in the practice of medicine

Feeling overwhelmed and frustrated

Increased mental health concerns

What causes burnout?



Why did you become a Locums PA?



My career as a PA

- 36 years as a PA
- 8 years as a full-time locums
- During first 28 years dealt with:
 - Admin problems and politics
 - No compensation for call or overtime
 - Low salary



Experiences with locums

- Experiencing different facilities
- Motivated me to a Masters
- Motivated me to get doctorate



Experiences with locums

• Travel the country









Welcome

CUSTER National Forest US DEPT OF AGRICULTURE

BEARTOOTH SCENIC BYWAY

What is locum tenens?

- Working temporary assignments in your home state or around the country
- Flexibility of making your own schedule
- Receive healthcare, 401K, etc.



Why locum tenens?

- Be your own boss
- Flexibility
- Focus only on patients
- No office politics
- Travel





Locum tenens survey

Purpose: The purpose of the study was to collect data regarding the **status of Physician Assistants (PAs) involved in locum tenens** cardiothoracic and vascular surgery (CTV) for which there exists no objective academic data to assist in making a permanent career choice.



Locum tenens survey

Results: Data available on locum tenens physicians (MD/DO) was compared with cardiothoracic and vascular PA locum tenens employees. The survey response was 40 of the surveys sent (160 contractors as stated by two locum tenens agencies accounting for 60 contract facilities) resulting in a 25% response rate (95% CI).



Locum tenens survey

Conclusion: Based on the upsurge in MD/DO and CTV PA locum tenens contracts, the rationale for permanent employment as CTV **locum tenens** PA looks sustainable for at least the next five years.



Why work locum tenens? How does locum tenens work?







Locum Tenens is all about experience



- 1- Analyze your experience
- 2- Identify your long-term goals
- 3- Steer your training
- 4- Start with your first job

Be your own driver

Set yourself up for your first locum tenens job thinking about:

- Identify a specialty that interests you.
- Select rotations in a specific specialty, setting or with specific procedures.
- Target a residency or fellowship while in school.



Before you apply





When You are Ready



- It starts with a phone call
- A recruiter will walk you through the process to apply
- Choose the job that's just right for you
- ✓ Obtain a state license if necessary
- Your travel and living accommodations are arranged at no cost to you
- Malpractice insurance is taken care of while you are working



Your Questions

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